

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 08919 051031Z

12

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01

AGR-20 SWF-02 IGA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 IO-14 DRC-01 /122 W

----- 017326

R 050731Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2475

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 8919

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN IN

SUBJECT: CONGESTION AT CALCUTTA PORT

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI FROM CALCUTTA JUL 03

REPEATED:

QUOTE

CALCUTTA 1365

1. PRESS HERE HAS PUBLISHED ACCOUNTS OF CONGESTION AT CALCUTTA PORT CAUSED BY THE SUDDEN ARRIVAL OF SEVEN TO EIGHT SHIPS CARRYING FOODGRAINS. THESE REPORTS HAVE ALLEGED THAT THE PORT COMMISSION HAS BEEN UABLE TO CLEAR DOCKS OR UNLOAD SHIPS DUE TO LABOR AND OTHER PROBLEMS.

2. ON 26 JUNE A CONSULATE OFFICER MET WITH MR. P C MITTER, CHAIRMAN OF THE CALCUTTA PORT COMMISSION AND DISCUSSED CONGESTION AT THE PORT. MR. MITTER STATED THAT THE CONGESTION WAS CAUSED BY THE INABILITY OF THE FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA (FCI) TO MOVE GRAINS QUICKLY FROM THE DOCKS ONCE THEY HAD BEEN UNLOADED BY THE PORT COMMISSION. FCI'S PROBLEM STEMMED FROM A SHORTAGE OF RAIL WAGONS, THE USUAL MODE OF TRANSPORT. MR. MITTER HAD REQUESTED TO UTILIZE TRUCKS TO MOVE THE GRAINS. THE FCI HAD, HOWEVER, DEMURRED, CITING THE ADDITIONAL EXPENSE INHERENT IN MOVEMENT BY TRUCK.

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MIQXTTER STATES THAT HE SUBSEQUENTLY ORDERED THAT GRAINS NOT BE UNLOADED FROM THE SHIPS UNTIL HE WAS ASSURED THAT IT WOULD BE QUICKLY REMOVED FROM THE DOCK AREA BY THE FCI. HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT A SOLUTION WOULD SOON BE REACHED.

3. 1 JULY ISSUE OF THE STATESMAN REPORTED THAT ACCORDING TO MR. MITTER, CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE FCI AND THE PORT HAD RESULTED IN CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENT IN THE MOVEMENT OF GRAINS FROM THE DOCK AREA, AND IF THIS TEMPO OF WORK CONTINUED THERE WOULD BE NO CONGESTION OF FOOD SHIPS AT THE PORT.
SIGNED PICKERING
UNQUOTESCHNEIDER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
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Film Number: D740178-0547
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971021
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TAGS: ETRN, IN
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